

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

[**Notice-PBS-2025-XX; Docket No. 2025-XXXX; Sequence No. XX;**

UNIQUE IDENTIFIER: SEIS-023-00-009-1727281974]

**Notice of Availability for the Record of Decision of the
Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the
Expansion and Modernization of the Raul Hector Castro Land
Port of Entry and Proposed Commercial Land Port of Entry in
Douglas, Arizona**

AGENCY: Public Buildings Service (PBS), Region 9, General
Services Administration (GSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GSA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the
Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)
Expansion and Modernization of the Raul Hector Castro (RHC)
Land Port of Entry (LPOE) and Proposed Commercial LPOE in
Douglas, Arizona, on June 20, 2025. The ROD was prepared in
accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act
(NEPA) and GSA PBS *NEPA Desk Guide*.

DATES: *Applicable:* July 21, 2025.

ADDRESSES: The ROD can be found online at the following
website: [https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/gsa-regions/region-9-
pacific-rim/land-ports-of-entry/raul-hector-castro-land-
port-of-entry](https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/gsa-regions/region-9-pacific-rim/land-ports-of-entry/raul-hector-castro-land-port-of-entry).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Osmahn Kadri, Gerente de Proyecto NEPA de GSA, en osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov o al 415-522-3617.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The RHC LPOE is a port of entry for vehicles and pedestrians crossing the U.S.-Mexico border in Douglas, Arizona, located in the southeastern corner of the state and across from Agua Prieta, Sonora in Mexico. The port is a full-service, multi-modal facility where U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP) currently inspects commercially owned vehicles (COVs), privately owned vehicles (POVs), and pedestrians.

The purpose of the project considered within the supplemental analysis is to address overall flood control and utility requirements (i.e., stormwater, electrical, sanitary sewer, and fiber optic lines), as well as improve port operational efficiency for the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE. The project is needed to avoid engineering conflicts between the current alignment of the Rose Avenue channel with the current proposed layout for the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE; to divert stormwater away from and reduce flooding risks at the

RHC LPOE; to provide sufficient stormwater capacity for the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE; and to enhance overall functionality and safety. In addition, the project is needed to meet proposed utility requirements of the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE and bring them in line with current land port design standards and operational requirements. Existing electrical lines are also located within the area proposed for realignment of a segment of the Rose Avenue channel and power the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), located west of the existing RHC LPOE. These lines need to be relocated to maintain electrical service to the WWTP as well as to satisfy CBP design requirements, which prohibit overhead lines within LPOE boundaries. Finally, this project is needed to consider construction water demand and supply at the proposed Commercial LPOE.

On October 8, 2024, GSA published a Notice of Intent to prepare a SEIS in the Federal Register (89 FR 81529) and it underwent a 30-day scoping period. The Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft SEIS and Floodplain Assessment and Statement of Findings was published in the Federal Register (90 FR 14840) on April 4, 2025 and was available for a 45-day public comment period that ended on May 19, 2025. The NOA for the Final SEIS and Floodplain Assessment and Statement of Findings was published in the Federal Register (90 FR 26299)

on June 20, 2025 and was available for a 30-day wait period that ended on July 21, 2025.

Comments received, along with GSA's responses, during the Final SEIS 30-day wait period are provided in Appendix A of the ROD.

Preferred Alternative

GSA has chosen to implement Alternative 1 (Flood Control, Utility Upgrades, and Construction Water Supply) as defined in the Final SEIS. GSA considered the findings in the Final SEIS; associated technical reports; comments from federal and state agencies, stakeholders, members of the public, tribes, and elected officials; miscellaneous resources contained in the administrative record; and tenant needs at the LPOE to determine the preferred alternative and the environmentally preferable alternative.

Alternative 1 (Flood Control, Utility Upgrades, and Construction Water Supply) consists of constructing an approximately 2,750-foot-long stormwater channel; evaluating and improving the existing concrete box culvert (CBC) beneath the RHC LPOE; demolishing the existing stormwater channel segment that parallels the western side of Pan American Avenue between East 3rd Street and the southern end of the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE; installing a new CBC where the proposed stormwater channel crosses Chino Road; constructing

maintenance roads and security fencing along the proposed stormwater channel; constructing a 6.2 acre stormwater basin; obtaining all necessary land and right-of-way permissions; and replacing or installing 6,500 feet of electrical lines, 4,700 feet of sanitary sewer lines, and 1,400 feet of fiber optic lines in the vicinity of the RHC LPOE; and obtaining necessary land and right-of-way permissions. Alternative 1 also includes supplying construction water to the proposed Commercial LPOE site through trucking treated wastewater along International Avenue from the City of Douglas WWTP over a period of 9 months.

Amanda Sweeney

Acting Regional Commissioner,
Pacific Rim Region,
Public Buildings Service
U.S. General Services Administration

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